

STONDON LOWER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 3RD JULY 2026



KS1 - Robins, Puffins and Kestrels



Sports day 2026

Thank you to everyone who came to cheer on our lovely children at Sports Day.

The winners this year were the **Lancasters**.



KS2 – Toucans and Hummingbirds



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Class learning updates from our lovely teachers

Robins – Miss Bellinger



Firstly, I would like to say how incredibly proud we are of all the children. They have coped brilliantly with the recent hot weather, continuing to learn with enthusiasm while looking after themselves and each other. They have shown great resilience, and we've been so impressed with their positive attitudes despite the heat. In phonics, we have been preparing the children for their exciting move into Year 1 by introducing some new learning. We have begun exploring more **alternative spellings for sounds** that the children already know, helping them understand that the same sound can often be represented in different ways. We have also introduced some **split digraphs** (such as *a-e*, *i-e*, *o-e* and *u-e*), which the children have been enjoying spotting and reading in words. This gives them a great head start for the phonics learning they will continue next year. Please continue reading together at home whenever you can, as this really helps to build confidence and fluency. A huge well done also goes to every child for their amazing effort during **Sports Day**. They truly smashed it! It was wonderful to see every child trying their very best, encouraging their friends and showing fantastic determination throughout each event. We were especially proud of the brilliant perseverance and excellent sportsmanship they demonstrated, celebrating one another's successes and never giving up. These are such valuable qualities, and they should all feel incredibly proud of themselves.

Puffins – Miss Ralevic



This week in Year 1, we have been writing our own stories inspired by *We're Going to Find a Monster* in our English lessons. We chose our own characters and carefully planned the exciting journey they would go on before writing our stories. We worked hard to use the word 'and' to join our ideas together and included lots of interesting adjectives to make our writing more exciting and to describe our monsters.

In Maths, we have been learning about money. We have learnt to recognise different coins and notes and have been practising how to count money. Next week, we will begin learning how to tell the time.

In World View, we have been thinking about how we can care for and look after the world, discussing the different ways we can help to protect our environment.

Kestrels – Mrs Lampshire and Mrs Lagah



Kestrels Class have had a fantastic week! Firstly, a huge well done to everyone for their brilliant efforts at Sports Day. The children showed excellent sportsmanship, teamwork and determination, and most importantly, had lots of fun.

In Maths, we have started revising key skills that will support the children as they move into Year 3, beginning with addition and subtraction. The children have impressed us with their ability to add two-digit numbers using a range of different strategies. In English, they loved designing and describing their own superheroes and villains, and we can't wait to see what adventures await them as they begin writing their superhero stories next week.

We also enjoyed an exciting archery session with Premier Sports, where the children showed fantastic perseverance while learning a new skill.

At home, please continue reading regularly, practise number facts and addition, and encourage your child to tell you all about their superhero character.

Toucans – Miss Cormack



It has been another busy and exciting week in Toucans! In Maths, we have started our new Statistics unit. We began by learning about pictograms, focusing on how to read and interpret them accurately. The children have discovered just how important it is to pay close attention to the key when answering questions, and they have enjoyed using their new skills to solve problems. In English, we have been researching different festivals and celebrations from around the world. The children have used their research to write informative non-chronological reports, thinking carefully about organising information under headings and using interesting facts. We have also continued to practise our spellings and handwriting, and the children are making great progress with both.

We have completed our final assessments. I am incredibly proud of how well they approached these, especially given the very warm weather. They showed fantastic resilience, determination, and maturity throughout. We have also begun preparations for our Something for Summer concert on 9th July. The children are working hard and are very excited to perform. We hope everyone has managed to get their tickets, and we look forward to celebrating the children's hard work with you all at what promises to be a wonderful event.

In History, we have completed our project on the Ancient Egyptian gods and goddesses. As a class, we created a fantastic book showcasing our learning, and the children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their research and creativity.

Hummingbirds – Mrs Read



In English, we have been exploring different forms of poetry. We have been identifying and using poetic features, including structure and similes, and have enjoyed writing our own limericks full of humour and creativity. In Maths, we have been investigating the properties of 2D shapes. We have learnt to identify and compare different polygons and have even discovered that a square is a special type of rectangle because it has four right angles and two pairs of parallel sides.

In PSHE, we were incredibly lucky to have the opportunity to learn some basic lifesaving skills. Thanks to the kindness of Mr Nelms, who brought in Resusci Anne training manikins, the children were able to gain hands-on experience of practising chest compressions. These first aid based PSHE lessons have helped the children understand the importance of knowing what to do in an emergency.

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Safeguarding - Stondon Lower School

What Is Safeguarding?

At our setting, your child's safety and wellbeing are our highest priorities. You may hear us talk about *safeguarding* — but what does that mean?

Safeguarding is the action we take to protect children from harm, abuse, neglect, or exploitation, and to make sure they grow up in a safe and supportive environment.

It includes:

- Protecting children from physical, emotional, and sexual harm
- Preventing neglect
- Promoting children's health, wellbeing, and development
- Making sure children feel safe, listened to, and supported

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. All staff are trained to recognise signs that a child may need help and to respond appropriately. We follow national guidance such as **Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)** and work closely with local safeguarding partners when needed.

If we are ever concerned about a child's safety, we have a legal duty to take appropriate action. In most cases, we will speak with parents first. However, if we believe a child may be at immediate risk, we may need to seek advice or make a referral without prior discussion. Our priority will always be the child's safety.

If you ever have concerns about a child's safety — whether it is your own child or another child — please speak to our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL). We are here to listen, support, and work together with families.

Or you can contact the Integrated Front Door (Children's Services) on 0300 300 8585. Mon – Thurs 8.45am – 5.20pm Fri 8.45am – 4.20pm

Email: IFD@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Out of hours: Social Care Emergency Duty Team 0300 300 8123

Bedfordshire Police Child Abuse Investigation Unit - 01234 846960.

NSPCC 0808 800 5000



Mrs Ciara Dumpleton

Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Nicola Foxall

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Hayley Lampshire

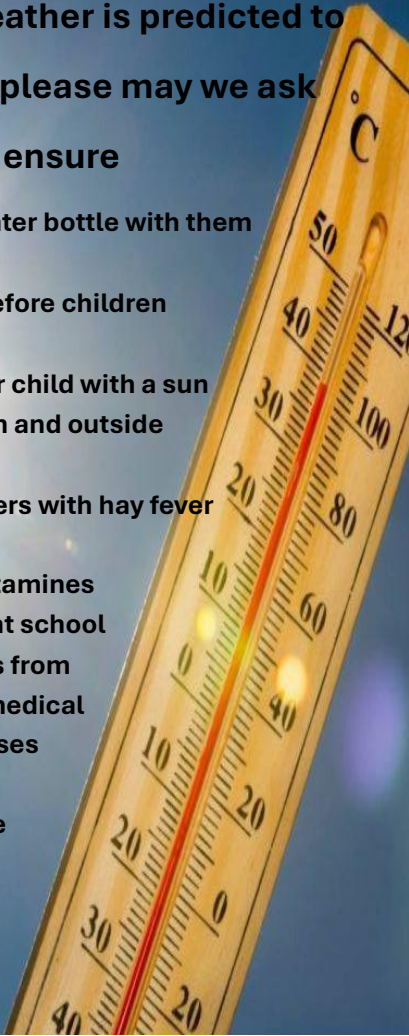
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

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Next week the weather is predicted to be hot again so please may we ask you ensure

- Your child has a water bottle with them everyday
- Apply suncream before children come to school
- Please send in your child with a sun hat for break, lunch and outside learning
- If your child is suffers with hay fever please ensure you administer antihistamines before they arrive at school
- If your child suffers from hayfever or has a medical condition, sunglasses can be worn upon agreement with the school.



As you will all know it's Mrs Dumpleton last day today for a few months. I'm sure you'll all join us in wishing her a quick and speedy recovery.

Good luck Mrs Dumpleton and we can't wait until you're back with us!



Date	Event
Friday 3 rd July	Transition day
Wednesday 8 th July	British Schools Museum – Year 2
Wednesday 8 th July	Open Classrooms 3:30pm
Thursday 9 th July	Something for Summer – Year 3
Thursday 9 th July	Leavers assembly – Year 4
Thursday 16 th July	Summer Fair

Term Dates 2025-2026

Summer Term

Tuesday 14th April- Friday 17th July 2026

Half Term: Monday 26th May - Friday 29th May 2026

Term Dates 2026-2027

Autumn Term

Monday 7th September - Friday 18th December 2026

Half Term: Monday 26th October- Friday 30th October 2026

Inset Days: Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September

Spring Term

Tuesday 5th January - Thursday 25th March 2027

Half Term: Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February 2027

Inset Days: 4th January 2027

More information for our events and trips will be sent via Parentmail. However, if you have any questions please contact Mrs Addy in the office.

Requests for term time absence will not be approved unless due to exceptional circumstances.